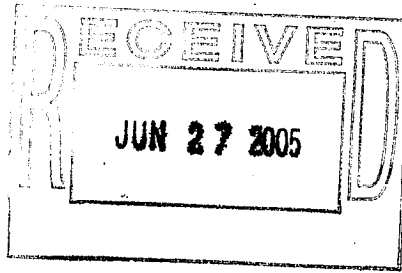


**Pajaro River Watershed  
Flood Prevention Authority**

PO Box 809, Marina, CA 93933 ♦ 831.883.3750



June 13, 2005



The California High-Speed Rail Authority  
925 L Street, Suite 1425  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Request to be placed on notification lists for all commercial, industrial, subdivision, highway, and rail development projects received or proposed that are within the Soap Lake 100-year flood plain area as identified by the Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (Authority) was established in July of 2000 by State Assembly Bill 807 in order to "identify, evaluate, fund, and implement flood prevention and control strategies in the Pajaro River Watershed, on an intergovernmental basis." The watershed covers areas within four counties and four water districts.

The Authority Board of Directors is comprised by law of one representative from each of the following eight jurisdictions:

1. County of Santa Clara
2. County of Monterey
3. County of San Benito
4. County of Santa Cruz
5. Santa Clara Valley Water District
6. San Benito County Water District
7. Monterey County Water Resources Agency
8. Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7

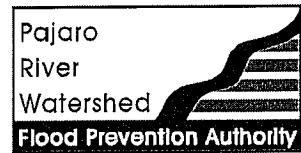
With state water bond funding, the Authority is conducting a watershed study to determine how best to provide flood protection for the Pajaro River Watershed. The study has identified the Soap Lake flood plain, which is located within the watershed, as an extremely important flood protection feature.

The success of downstream flood protection projects as proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers depends on the continued existence of the Soap Lake 100-year flood plain area as a natural detention basin. This 100-year flood plain area is divided by the Pajaro River, between San Benito and Santa Clara Counties, and it is located approximately between San Felipe Lake and the State Highway 101. It is a seasonal lake, depending on annual rainfall amount and rainfall patterns.

The Authority consultants have prepared an Initial Study/Negative Declaration that identified no significant impacts of the Soap Lake Plain Preservation Project on the local and regional environment. The proposed project would include either purchasing land or obtaining flood prevention easements for the land within the Soap Lake flood plain. No structural facilities are presently proposed. The objective of the project is to maintain the current flood protection benefits provided by the Soap Lake 100-year flood plain, by protecting the area from significant development changes that would impact its flood protection properties. The purchase of land and/or flood plain easements would serve to restrict development and preserve agricultural uses and open space.

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California High-Speed Rail Authority  
June 13, 2005  
Page 2

Therefore, the Board of Directors of the Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority cordially requests that the agencies listed as addressees of this letter notify the Authority whenever a development application is received or proposed that is located within the Soap Lake 100-year flood plain, as identified on Figure 1, and that is also a commercial, industrial, subdivision, highway, or rail development proposal. A project that includes an individual single family dwelling and its associated outbuildings, such as a guest house, garage, bunk house, shed, barn, carport, etc., is exempt from this request for information.

The notification that is requested should include the owner's name, address, the site address, the Assessor's Parcel Numbers involved, a site plan, and the nature of the proposal, such as subdivision, use permit, etc.

The Authority proposes to use the notifications as a means to comment on projects that may affect the preservation of the Soap Lake 100-year flood plain and therefore flood prevention for downstream communities. By bringing concerns to the attention of the approving or proposing jurisdiction, the Authority hopes that potential mitigations will be identified and considered early in the land use review, CEQA or NEPA process.

After the notification of a proposal is received by the Authority, the Staff Working Group (SWG) of the Authority and the Executive Coordinator will review the project, confirm the location of the proposal within the mapped Soap Lake 100-year flood plain area, and request that mitigation be considered, as appropriate to the project and its potential effect on the 100-year flood plain capacity. Projects that are considered to be very significant by the SWG will be referred for review and comment directly to the Authority Board of Directors.

The referring agency will be notified of any Board of Directors' referral and the SWG/Executive Coordinator comments in a timely manner. Reports of all projects reviewed will appear along with SWG/Executive Coordinator comments in the PRWFPA Board of Directors' agenda packet. The SWG meets monthly; the Board of Directors meets every other month.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nick Papadakis, Executive Coordinator for the Authority, at 831-883-3750 or at [NPapadakis@ambag.org](mailto:NPapadakis@ambag.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Campos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "T" and "C".

Tony Campos, Chair  
Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority

CC: All Authority Jurisdictions and Associate Members

Enclosure: Fig. 1, Map of 100-Year Soap Lake Flood Plain Area from Watershed/Flood Study

**Pajaro River Watershed  
Flood Prevention Authority**

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The Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Clara  
County Government Center  
70 W. Hedding St., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Wing  
San Jose, CA 95110

The Board of Supervisors  
County of San Benito  
County Administration Building  
481 Fourth Street, First Floor  
Hollister, CA 95023-3840

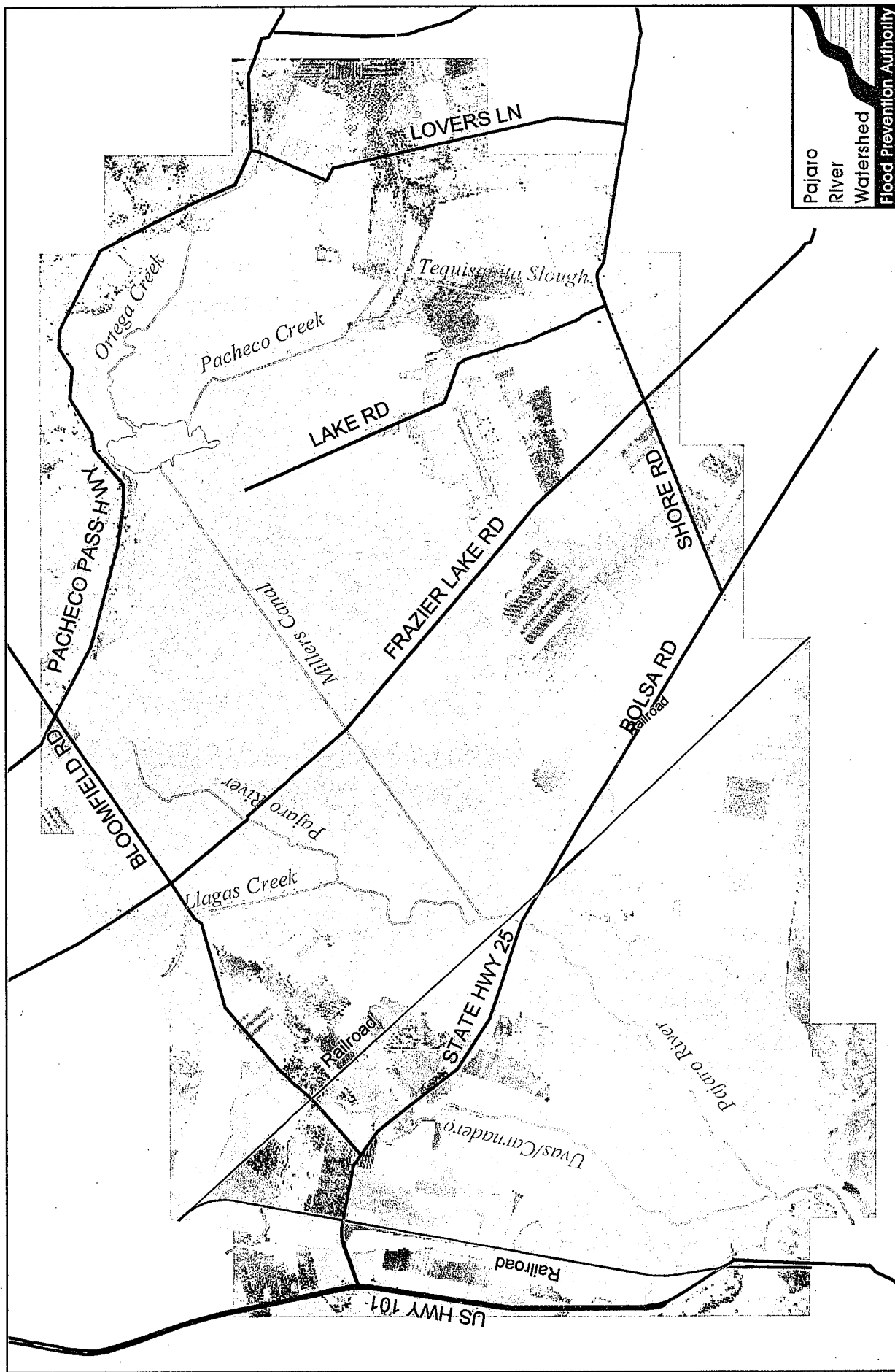
The Board of Directors  
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
3331 N. First Street  
San Jose, CA 95134-1906

The California Department of Transportation, District Directors  
District 4  
P. O. Box 23660  
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

The California Department of Transportation, District Directors  
District 5  
50 Higuera Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-5415

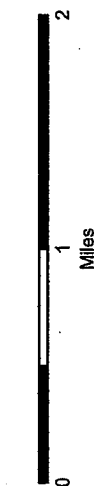
California High-Speed Rail Authority  
925 L Street, Suite 1425  
Sacramento, CA 95814

National Railroad Passenger Corporation Board of Directors (AMTRAK)  
60 Massachusetts Ave., NE  
Washington, DC 20002



# Soap Lake 100-Year Floodplain

- Road
- Railroad
- River
- San Felipe Lake
- Floodplain



Pajaro  
 River  
 Watershed  
 Flood Prevention Authority